

THE
ALABAMA BAPTIST
CONVENTION

1823-1842

[L.C. 1841]

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION,
OF ALABAMA;

HELD AT

Oakmulgee Meeting House, Perry County,

COMMENCING ON

SATURDAY, NOV. 9, 1839.

TUSKALOOSA:

M. D. J. SLADE, PRINTER.

1839.

279
MINUTES.

SATURDAY, Nov. 9th, 1839.

1. According to appointment, the convention held its sixteenth annual meeting, at Oakmulgee Church. Elder J. Hartwell preached the introductory sermon, from Mat. xxv, 31. "His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant," &c.

2. The President, H. Holcombe, took the Chair, and the Secretary, A. J. Holcombe, recorded the proceedings.

3. The names of delegates were enrolled, as follows:

Montgomery Society—A. B. McWhorter, W. C. CRANE.

Greenesborough Fem. Soc.—James Gresham.

Baptist Church at Irwinton—W. M. TRYON, Fred. Porter.

Oakmulgee Church—A. W. Jackson, A. R. Rembert, R. R. Nance, M. Dennis.

Marion Fem. M. Soc.—Letter and contribution.

Grant's Creek Soc.—J. H. DE VOTIE, J. C. Foster.

Jones' Creek Church—Thomas Bright.

Other Members present.

G. F. HEARD,	M. B. CLEMENT,	H. HOLCOMBE,	J. REEVES,
J. HARTWELL,	J. CRUMPTON,	O. M. PETERSON,	W. J. CALLAWAY
R. P. Lide,	Thomas Chiles,	A. J. Holcombe,	W. B. Haralson,
David Cole,	Samuel Orr,	W. J. Hale,	Leo. Butler,
F. C. LOWERY,	N. HAGGARD,	JOHN DENNIS,	T. D. ARMSTRONG
J. B. Prestridge,	C. M. Cochran,	John Corgill,	J. Anderson,
P. McAdams,	M. C. Curry,	G. Goode,	J. E. Whitten,
L. H. Stone,	Rachel Williams,	James Cole,	J. A. Stone,
C. Crow,	D. P. BESTOR,	A. G. McCRAW,	GEO. EVERETT,
James Thompson,	James Blakey,	J. W. W. Crow,	G. Huckabee,
C. Furguson,	Geo. Hopper.		

(Ministers' names in small capitals.)

4. Elected J. Hartwell President, and A. J. Holcombe, Secretary.

5. Read the Constitution and By-laws.

6. The Secretary requested that an Assistant Secretary should be appointed. On motion, therefore, James Gresham was appointed.

Called for correspondence—whereupon the following brethren presented their credentials, and were received:

From General Association of Virginia, J. S. BAKER.

Cahawba Association, C. Crow, J. H. De Votie, A. G. Mc-

Craw, G. Everett, J. C. Foster, D. P. Bestor.

South-western Convention—Thomas Chiles, D. P. Bestor.

Canaan Association—H. Holcombe, A. J. Holcombe.

Received a letter by the hand of W. M. Tryon, from Georgia Convention.

8. Appointed Committees, as follows:

On arrangement of Preaching, Crow, Everett, McCraw.

On Agency, McWhorter, Tryon, De Votie.

On Nomination, Haralson, Heard, Jackson.

On Arrangement of Business, H. Holcombe, McCraw, Bestor, with President and Secretary.

On History, Bestor, H. Holcombe, Hartwell. ✓

On Education, Heard, Foster, Clement. —

On F. Missions, Crane, Tryon, Heard.

On D. Missions, Crumpton, Nance, McCraw.

On S. Schools, De Votie, Crane, Rembert.

On State of Religion, Armstrong, Everett, Haralson.

On Temperance, Cochran, Reeves, Callaway.

On Finance, Chiles, McWhorter, Haralson.

✓ Adjourned till Monday, 10 o'clock, A. M. ✓

9. The stand was occupied on the Sabbath by W. C. Crane, D. P. Bestor, and J. S. Baker, who preached to a large, orderly and attentive congregation.

MONDAY, Nov. 11.

10. Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by J. S. Baker. Invited visiting brethren to take seats in the Convention.

11. The report of the committee on arrangement received and adopted.

12. The committee on agency reported as follows:

• The committee on Agency beg leave to report, that they have had the subject under consideration, and from the want of success in the labors of your former agents, the committee believe that it will be to the interest of the convention, to dispense, for the present, with travelling agents; and in order to collect the moneys now due the convention, and to advance its general interests, we recommend the appointment of local agents.*

Respectfully submitted. A. B. McWHORTER, Ch'n.

13. Reports of agents were called for. H. Holcombe presented his report, which was received, and referred to the committee on History.

14. Report of committee on History called for. On motion by A. J. Holcombe, further time was given said committee, and all documents on that subject referred to them.

15. The report of the committee on Nomination was received, and laid on the table.

16. The Treasurer's report was received, and referred to committee on Finance.

17. Proceeded to the election of other officers, which resulted

* Eight local agents were appointed, whose names will be found with those of other officers.

in the choice of H. Holcombe and George Everett, Vice Presidents, D. P. Bestor, Treasurer, and J. C. Foster, Corresponding Secretary.

18. The report of the committee appointed on Saturday last, on Education, received and laid on the table.

19. The Standing Committee, or Board of Education, presented their annual report, which was received, and referred to committee on Education. On motion, D. P. Bestor and A. G. McCraw were added to said committee.

Adjourned till 11 o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, NOV. 12.

21. Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by H. Holcombe.

22. Received the report of the committee on Domestic Missions, which was laid on the table.

23. On motion, the financial committee was authorized to settle with the representative of Thomas Atkinson, deceased; also with H. Holcombe.

24. The committee on Foreign Missions presented their report, which was received, amended and adopted.

Brother President: Your committee on Foreign Missions, beg leave to Report—From all the information which has been received from missionary stations under the charge of the Baptist Board of Missions, we have still further reason to believe, that the cause of Missions is the cause of God. To the eye of intelligence, it has never been a problem, whether the diffusion of gospel light among those who are sitting in the region and shadow of death, was a work of christian benevolence, sanctioned by divine command; or a mere expedient of human arrogance.

The political economist, in contemplating only the elevation of society, in intelligence and morals, and the consequent success of civilized communities, in attaining wealth and honor, has decided that no scheme ever was devised, better calculated to promote every temporal interest of man, than the christian religion; and certainly no christian philosopher can differ from this decision of human expediency? But the absolute good effected by the feeble means employed to send the gospel pure and perfect to every creature on the habitable globe, cheers the heart of every lover of his Savior's image. Every eastern breeze that wafts a message from the Land of Darkness, brings the joyous intelligence that some soul has been redeemed from the power of sin, and translated into the light of God's kingdom. And were there only one soul converted from heathenish darkness, that one conversion were deserving of all the prayers and expenditure of time and money.

Let a few statistical facts, extracted from the report of the A. B. B. of Missions, suffice in this brief report. "Connected with the Board, are sixty-six stations, and twenty-nine out-stations. The number of missionaries and assistants, is one hundred and six; native printers and assistants, eighty-five; the number of churches, forty-five, embracing two thousand members, five hun-

dred and seventy of whom were baptised during the past year. There are sixty-eight Sabbath Schools, containing from twelve to fifteen hundred scholars. Printing has been executed in fourteen different languages." Are not such results, brought about by the feeble beginning of that devoted missionary, Adoniram Judson, when providentially thrown upon the charity of the Baptist denomination, worthy of devout gratitude to God; and shall we, with the Macedonian cry ringing in our ears, coupled with the affecting description of human suffering, together with the pleasing intelligence of the regeneration of benighted idolaters, be excited to double diligence in this holy cause?

Much yet remains to be done. Four hundred millions of human beings are still destitute of a knowledge of CHRIST CRUCIFIED.

"Shall we, whose souls are lighted
With wisdom from on high—
Shall we, to men benighted,
The lamp of life deny?"

May we not hope, that the year to come will find us doubling our contributions, and exerting our influence more effectually than ever before!

In conclusion, your committee would recommend that the Monthly Concert of Prayer, be established in all the churches of the State. They would also present to the notice of every friend of missions, the Baptist Missionary Magazine, as worthy of the perusal of all who desire intelligence concerning missionary operations; and Malcom's Travels in the East, as containing a body of intelligence no where else to be found within the same compass.—Respectfully submitted.

W. CAREY CRANE, Ch'n.

25. The committee on Sabbath Schools reported. The report was received, amended and adopted.

The committee on Sabbath Schools Report—That we most heartily congratulate this convention, and christian philanthropists generally, on account of the establishment of the Sabbath School, as an instrument of moral reform; an institution, the effect of which is being experienced at that interesting period when the character is formed. The Divine Being has signally blessed it in inspiring sentiments of youthful piety. The peculiar pleasure and interest which the compassionate Savior feels in it, may be inferred from his invitation—"Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not." How can we more properly comply with this sacred wish of our Lord, than by assembling them on his holy day, and teaching them his word?

The Sabbath School secures the attendance of the young upon the public worship of God, and also prevents their desecration of the holy Sabbath.

The church is deeply interested in the prosperity of this inter-

esting institution: those instructed in the word of God, by this means are the first subjects of revivals; and a large proportion of the young ministers of the American Church, received their first religious impressions in this nursery of the Church; and nearly all of our missionaries in foreign lands, have received instruction in Sabbath Schools!

We hail its establishment and progress as a fresh token of the near approach of the millennial day. In conclusion, your committee beg leave to offer for your adoption, the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we regard the Sabbath School, as one among the most important religious institutions of the day.

Resolved, That we recommend to every minister in Alabama, to use his influence in the establishment of a Sabbath School in his congregation, and in convenient neighborhoods.

26. The committee on Finance, reported that they had examined the accounts of Elder H. Holcombe for the past year, and found the convention indebted to him \$134 66, which he had kindly relinquished. The same committee find the account of the late Thomas Atkinson, as follows:

The convention, to T. Atkinson,	Dr.	\$337 50
“ by cash paid by H. Holcombe, Cr.		120 00

Balance due,	-	-	-	-	217 50
--------------	---	---	---	---	--------

The committee further report, that they have examined the report of the Treasurer, with the vouchers, and find it correct.

A. B. McWHORTER, Ch'n.

27. *Treasurer's Account.*

The following report commences with the balance in the Treasury, as exhibited in the printed report of Nov. 1838.*

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

1838.	Balance in Treasury,-----	\$344 15
-------	---------------------------	----------

Disbursements.

	Dec. 14, To A. J. Holcombe, for printing,----	25 00
--	---	-------

1839.	March 9, paid for current money,-----	55 00
-------	---------------------------------------	-------

	“ 17, paid A. McClay, for B. F. Missions,-----	150 00
--	--	--------

		230 00
--	--	--------

	Now in Treasury,-----	114 15
--	-----------------------	--------

DOMESTIC MISSIONS,

1838.	In Treasury at last report,-----	37 72
-------	----------------------------------	-------

	Received of R. S. F. Roster,-----	5 00
--	-----------------------------------	------

* It will be observed, that this report extends only to the opening of the session for 1839; therefore, it does not embrace any funds sent up at this time.

Disbursed.

Dec. 14, paid A. J. Holcombe for printing,-----	10 00
1839. March 9, paid for current money,-----	22 72
	<hr/>
	32 72

Now in Treasury,----- 10 00

AFRICAN MISSION.

In Treasury at last report,----- 6 87

EDUCATION FUND.

In Treasury at last report,----- 681 85

Disbursements.

Dec. 5, paid A. J. Holcombe for printing Rev.
E. Baptist's sermon, ----- 45 00

Dec. 9, paid J. L. Dagg, by order of Board of
Education, for books, ----- 150 00

Dec. 14, paid A. J. Holcombe, for printing,----- 25 00

1839. March 2, J. Hartwell, for boarding and teaching
L. H. Stone,----- 35 00

March 9, paid for current money,----- 37 01

Oct. 19, J. Hartwell for L. H. Stone,----- 37 50

" "----- 37 50

367 01

Now in Treasury,----- 314 84

CONVENTION FUND.

In Treasury at last report, omitting \$39 tickets, 7 23

1838. *Disbursed.*

Nov. 19, paid for blank book,----- 1 12

1839. Mar. 9, for current money,----- 6 11

7 23

At an early day, the Treasurer, pursuant to instructions in the 48th section of last year's minutes, exchanged most of the Mississippi funds for current money. Although the convention has sustained great loss by these exchanges, yet they were effected, as subsequent events show, at the best possible time.

The aggregate amount now in the Treasury, and subject to order of the convention, is \$445 86.

D. P. BESTOR, Treasurer.

28. *Report on Temperance.*—Your committee on Temperance beg leave to Report—That they have had the subject under consideration, and are convinced that it is worthy of the attention of every intelligent being on earth, and the cause should receive the attention and support of your body.

We are happy to say the cause of temperance is fast advancing

in our State, and we hope, by the untiring efforts of its votaries, those sinks of pollution, grog-shops, from which distress and immorality proceed, will soon be hurled into oblivion. But it is to be regretted that intemperance has been permitted to spread its baleful influence over society, so long without efficient opposition.

In conclusion we would recommend the following resolution.

RESOLVED. That this Convention appoint two or more delegates to meet with the Temperance Convention in Tuscaloosa on the 16th Dec. next.

29. A. J. Holcombe moved that seven delegates be appointed; which passed—and the following are the names of those appointed: Rev. D. P. Bestor, Rev. G. F. Heard, Rev. J. H. DeVotie, Rev. M. B. Clement, James Gresham, A. J. Holcombe, J. C. Foster.

30. The Report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Alabama Institute was received—whereupon, the following order was adopted:

31. Whereas, there is now remaining in the hands of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Alabama Institute of Literature and Industry, about seventeen hundred dollars in available notes: And whereas, the money obtained for tuition was expended in the payment of teachers, it follows that the money now on hand was obtained by this Convention for the purposes of education. Therefore,

Ordered, that said money, as it is collected, be placed to the credit of the Education Fund of this Institution, and that it be preserved inviolable for Education purposes, according to the intent of the donors, unless withdrawn as herein specified.

Ordered, secondly, That as this money amounts to eleven per cent. on the original donations, that according to the prudent and wise recommendation of the Trustees, the sum of eleven per cent be paid to each donor, who wishes to withdraw his part of the money from the Education Fund, and who applies within one year to the Treasurer, with sufficient vouchers or testimonials, that the money was actually paid to the Agent of this Convention.

32. The report of the committee on the state of religion, was received and laid on the table. On motion, it was again called up, and so much of it as relates to a day of fasting and prayer, adopted, viz:

Your committee would close their Report by recommending that a day of Fasting and Prayer be set apart—when the Churches, each in their respective places of worship, shall humble themselves in the sight of God, and beseech his blessing upon the Church universally.

33. Whereupon, it was **RESOLVED.** That the Second Sabbath in April next, be set apart as a day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, to Almighty God for a blessing upon the church, and all the laudable efforts of His people, to advance the Redeemer's kingdom on earth.

34. **RESOLVED,** That the members of this Convention will individually use all prudent means to induce their respective Churches to become auxiliary; and send up Delegates, with their contributions to the next session of this body.

35. **RESOLVED,** That this Convention grant the request of the A. B. Bible Society, to print its Minutes in connection with those of this body.

36. **RESOLVED,** That the Treasurer of this Convention pass into the hands of the Treasurer of the Bible Society, the funds in his hands for that Institution.

37. **RESOLVED,** That the Board of Education be recommended to place all the Beneficiaries of this Convention, until otherwise advised, under Rev. J. Hartwell, for instruction.

38. The committee on History, to whom the Report of H. Holcombe was referred, recommend the following statistical view of the Baptist denomination in Alabama, made out by him as a highly important document.

Those marked A, are Anti, or New Test Associations—those marked P. A. are divided in sentiment.

(a) The Choctaw Association was constituted as above; but dissolved in 1838. Three Associations have been partly formed of those Churches, and as one of them retains the name of Choctaw, I have retained the date of the former constitution, although it was organized in 1838. I have embraced all the churches of which I have any knowledge, in Sumter county, not embraced in the Liberty Association.

(b) At the last meeting of this body, 6 churches went off, because the Association refused to declare a non-fellowship with benevolent institutions.

(c) This Association was first organized on about 5 churches, which was withdrawn from by the Chattahoochee River Association, (now dissolved) on account of some of their ministers denying the doctrine of imputation. Mr. J. F. Watson, one of the ministers, seems to deny the charge; but different correspondents have given information that it is a fact. This body, and perhaps some other churches scattered through this region, are Anti-Missionaries, and from all that we can learn from correspondents, and from two communications published in the "Primitive Baptist," we shall estimate them at 10 churches, 8 ministers, and the total number of members at 250.

NOTE.—The New Test or Anti party of the Baptist denomination in this state, will be found, more or less, in almost all the Associations. And there is a number of missionary brethren, scattered through, nearly, or quite all the Anti Associations.

We have made as accurate a calculation, as, perhaps could be made under existing circumstances, and we estimate the whole number of the New Test party at 6000.

H. HOLCOMBE.

39. The committee on Education, Report, that from documents forwarded by the Board of Education, it appears that two individuals have received aid during the past year, and various others have been supplied with books, either as a loan or a donation.

Your committee would propose the following resolutions:

1st. Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars be expended for books, which, together with those on hand, shall be loaned or presented to our ministers, at their own discretion.

2. Resolved. That the Board of Education be instructed to receive as many, beneficiaries as can be maintained, by the funds in hand for this object, and that the Treasurer be ordered to hold said funds subject to the order of the Board.

3. Resolved, That the aforesaid Board be governed, in the discharge of their duties, by the following RULES

1. No young man shall be received as a beneficiary, by this Board, who shall not, after having been approved and licensed by his Church, to enter the Gospel ministry, give to the Board satisfactory evidence of having been called of God to that office.

2. In admitting a beneficiary, the Church by which he is recommended shall be urged to bear a part of his expense.

3. Each beneficiary shall be considered bound in honor to refund what the Board may have granted him, so far as he may become able in after life.

4. It shall be the duty of each beneficiary to pursue the course of study which the Board may recommend.

5. Each beneficiary shall be required, at least once in each half year, to obtain from his teacher, and forward to the Board a report of his progress in study, and of his general conduct.

40. Whereas, it has pleased God, in the dispensations of his wise Providence to remove from earthly toils, our much beloved brother, elder Thomas Atkinson, who has been an indefatigable and successful laborer, as a Domestic Missionary for more than two years, under the patronage of this Convention. Therefore,

Resolved, That while we would be submissive to the will of Heaven, we deeply deplore the loss of our brother, whom we loved, as an humble follower of the Savior, and a useful minister of his word.

41. The committee consisting of J. A. Hendon, D. P. Bestor and M. B. Clement, appointed last year to settle with A. G. McCraw, former Treasurer of the convention, have performed the duty assigned them, and find in his hands \$353 68, belonging to the Bible Society, and \$248 00, belonging to the Education fund; all which is subject to order.

42. On motion, the amendment to the constitution was laid on the table.

43. Appointed correspondents, viz. W. M. Tryon to Georgia Convention—the same to write. De Votie, Clement, Bestor and H. Holcombe, to Mississippi Convention—Clement to write. W. H. Holcombe and J. Seal, to Tennessee Convention—H. Holcombe to write. B. S. Fant, to Virginia General Association—McCraw to write. Clement and Callaway, to Cahawba Association—Callaway to write. Peterson and McCraw, to Canaan Association—Everett to write. Bestor, De Votie, Clement, McCraw, Armstrong, Heard, Foster, Hartwell, Callaway and Gresham, to South Western Convention—Bestor to write.

44. Ordered, That the Treasurer, after deducting contingent expenses, forward to the Treasurer of the General Convention, the funds for Foreign Missions.

45. Appointed the next meeting of this body at Greensborough, on Saturday before the second Sabbath in November, 1840—W. M. Tryon to preach the Introductory Sermon; G. F. Heard his alternate. J. H. De Votie to preach the Missionary Sermon; J. Hartwell his alternate.

46. Ordered, That the Secretary have 500 copies of the minutes printed; that he receive \$30 for his services, and draw upon the Treasurer for the funds necessary to defray expense of printing.

Adjourned, to meet again at the time and place above mentioned.

Benediction and Prayer by the President.

J. HARTWELL, President.

A. J. HOLCOMBE, Rec. Secretary.

Officers of the Convention.

JESSE HARTWELL, President.

H. HOLCOMBE, }
GEO. EVERETT, } V. Presidents
A. J. HOLCOMBE, Rec. Sec.

JAMES GRESHAM, Assistant Sec.
J. C. FOSTER, Cor. Sec.
D. P. BESTOR, Treasurer.

Directors.—E. D. King, L. Y. Tarrant, J. L. Goree, L. Goree, R. R. Nance, George Hopper, S. J. Larkin, M. Dennis, F. C. Lowery.

Trustees.—W. J. Croom, J. A. Hendon, W. T. Hendon, Gray Huckabee, J. Shivers, H. Tinker, Wm. Hart, D. P. Bestor, W. D. Baldwin, David Stephens, Green Hendon, J. H. Croom, J. L. Goree.

Board of Education.—J. Hartwell, J. H. De Votie, W. C. Crane, D. P. Bestor, A. G. McCraw.

Local Agents.—J. Hartwell, H. Holcombe, J. H. De Votie, W. C. Crane, M. B. Clement, W. M. Tryon, D. P. Bestor, W. J. Callaway.

MINUTES
OF
THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY
OF
THE ALABAMA BAPTIST BIBLE SOCIETY:

Held at Oakmulgee Meeting House, Perry county, Nov. 11 & 12, 1839.

NOVEMBER 11th, 1839.

1. The A. B. B. Society met according to previous appointment, at 3 o'clock, P. M. H. Holcombe, Vice President, was called to the chair, and A. J. Holcombe, former Secretary, recorded the proceedings.

2. The names of members present were recorded as follows, viz:

Auxiliaries.

Grant's Creek So.
Canaan So.
Irwinton Church,
Jones' Creek Church,
Oakmulgee Church,

Delegates.

J. C. Foster, J. H. De Votie.
H. Holcombe.
W. M. Tryon, F. Porter.
Thomas Bright.
A. W. Jackson, A. R. Rembert, R. K.
Nance, M. Dennis.

Other Members, Annual Contributors.

W. C. Crane, A. G. McCraw, D. P. Bestor, H. Holcombe, Thomas Chiles, J. Crumpton, A. J. Holcombe, George Everett, T. D. Armstrong, J. Dennis, J. Hartwell, R. Milton, James Gresham, C. Crow.

3. Proceeded to the election of officers, whose names will appear on the last page.

4. Appointed J. H. De Votie, W. C. Crane and W. M. Tryon, a committee on the nomination of other officers.

5. The report of the Secretary was received, and amended by striking out so much as related to a *corrected* or *complete* translation of the English Bible, and adopted.

Jonesborough, Nov. 4, 1839.

Brother PRESIDENT: Through the indulgence of a kind Providence, we are permitted to hail the approach of the third anniversary of the Alabama Baptist Bible Society.

It will be expected that your Secretary will lay before the Society, such items of intelligence, as may be in his possession, and will be of general interest to the christian public, so far as the objects of the Society are concerned, particularly to the Baptist denomination in our own State.

We regret the manifest decline of zeal among our brethren in this country, in promoting the objects of this institution, yet it is presumable this declension is dependent, in a great measure, upon the pecuniary embarrassment which every where prevails.

But notwithstanding this, and other obstacles calculated to hinder successful operations in the Bible cause, we still have cause to rejoice that the A. & F. B. So'y, is doing much to enlighten the world—to furnish the perishing millions of the earth with the rich treasure of God's word.

The account of the Treasurer of that Society, shews that the amount

of funds received into the Treasury within one year, ending on the 20th April last, was forty-three thousand eight hundred and twenty-three dollars, and eighty cents; and within three months thereafter, \$11,191 27 more was received, making a little above \$55,000 within 15 months.

As the result of the labors of that Society, the following extract is taken from their second annual report, published in April last:

"Languages and dialects in which the distribution, printing, or translation of the scriptures, in whole or in part, have been, or are now being promoted by the American and Foreign Bible Society.

English Bible—Re-print of King James' version of 1611; 35,000 copies of New Testaments and Bibles.

German Bible—Luther's version, printed and circulated by Brother Oreken of Hamburg—number of copies not known.

Burman Bible—Number of copies not known. To which may be added, portions of the Bible prepared in the Karen, Chinese, Siamese, Teloogeois, Shyan, Assamese, Oriya, Bengali, Hindustani, Sanscrit, Hindi, Javanese, Malay, Armenian, Khasia, Cingalesé, Cherokee, Shawanee, Delaware, Ozihway, Creek, Otoo and Choctaw languages."

Thus it appears, that that infant Society has, within the brief space of a little more than two years, furnished, to some extent, the word of life to vast multitudes of idolaters and savages, speaking twenty-six different languages and dialects.

It must be a source of the highest gratification to every lover of the Bible, to read this pleasing intelligence. It must cheer the heart of every devout christian, to know that the chains of darkness which bound like fetters, the lives of so many immortal beings, have been broken, and that they now enjoy the light of the gospel. He who has, through love to God, contributed to this heavenly work, enjoys a rich reward, in contemplating the fact, that he has aided as a weak instrument, in sending salvation to dying men, who were going down to everlasting ruin.

Last year, it appeared that the Society had only aided in furnishing the scriptures in seven languages. How encouraging, then, must it be, to see the field of operation extended almost three-fold within one year.

A. J. HOLCOMBE, Cor. Sec.

6. Appointed W. C. Crane and J. C. Foster, a committee to audit the Treasurer's account.

7. The report of the committee on nomination received and adopted—the names of managers will appear with those of other officers.

8. The auditing com. reported that they had examined the report of the former Treasurer, our lamented brother R. S. Foster, and found it correct.

9. The report, as made out by J. C. Foster, from the papers of the late Treasurer, at the request of the board, is as follows:

Robert S. Foster, in account with the Ala. B. B. Society.

1838.	DR.	
To balance in Treasury,	- - - - -	\$652 00
Rec'd of H. W. Middleton, am't of his sub. to A. McClay,	- - - - -	30 00
	CR.	\$682 00
By draft on W. & R. Kelley, N. York, from Ala. St'e B'k forwarded to W. Colgate, T. A. & F. B. S.	- - - - -	\$649 12
Discount and premium,	- - - - -	32 88
		\$682 00

NOTE.—For the receipt of the above by W. Colgate, see his annual report for 1839. J. C. F.

10. On motion, J. H. De Votie, D. P. Bestor and T. Chiles, were appointed a committee to prepare an obituary notice of the late Treasurer. Adjourned to half past 9 A. M. to-morrow.

TUESDAY, Nov. 12.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

11. The committee appointed to prepare an article on the death of Brother Foster, presented the following, which was adopted:

"In the mysterious dispensation of the Divine Providence, our beloved Brother Robert S. Foster, the late Treasurer of this Society, has been suddenly removed by death. In his decease, this institution has to deplore the loss of one of its most efficient members and patrons, and the cause of benevolence generally, a sincere friend. He was a good man, who adorned the doctrines of God our Savior, in his conduct as a christian. He died in the full assurance of that faith which he had for many years professed, and adorned. His eulogy is best pronounced by recommending his virtues and piety, as worthy of the imitation of the living."

12. Resolved, That the Secretary be authorised to draw upon the Treasurer, for the due proportion of funds to defray the expense of printing.

13. Resolved, That this Society will hold its next meeting at Greensborough, on Friday before the second Sabbath in November, 1840.

14. Resolved, That this Society request permission of the convention, to print these minutes in connection with those of that body.

15. Ordered, That the present Treasurer make out his report, and furnish the Secretary with it, for publication; and that after defraying expenses, he remit the funds of this Society, in his hands, to the Treasurer of the A. & F. B. Society.

16. Appointed Elder W. M. Tryon a delegate to represent this Society in the A. & F. B. Society, at its next annual session.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

A. G. McCraw, in account with the A. B. B. Society.

Received from Irwinton church, subscriptions to Elder A. A. McClay for

Burman Bible, second instalment, from the following persons:

Dr. C. Battle, \$50 00

Elder W. M. Tryon, 10 00

T. Kargill, 5 00

Mrs. Thompson, 5 00

By Elder Tryon, for R. C. Shorter, 10 00

F. Potter, 5 00

Williamson Archer, 2 00

From Canaan B. B. Society, 23 00

Members present, 13 00

Oakmulgee church, 29 25

Thomas Chiles, 2 50

From former Treasurer of the convention, 353 68

508 43

Paid superintendant for minutes, 20 00

\$488 43

17. Adjourned, to meet again at the time and place above mentioned.

D. P. BESTOR, President.

A. J. HOLCOMBE, Secretary.

Officers of the Society.

D. P. BESTOR, President.

H. HOLCOMBE,
J. HARTWELL,
W. M. TRYON,

V. Presidents.

A. G. McCRAW, Treasurer.
A. J. HOLCOMBE, Secretary.
J. H. DE VOTIE, Agent.

Managers.—J. L. Dagg, J. C. Keeney, E. Prince, W. M. Lacy, J. A. Hodges, P. Loud, C. Battle.



SAMFORD UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



1 1 00266058

Special Collections

GENERAL

BX '1823-41'

6470.1

.A4

Alabama Baptist State
Convention.
Annual

X

ROOM USE ONLY

